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AUTHOR Smith, Lawrence L.
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ABSTRACT

To make it easier to use the Spache Readability Formula, this document provides tables that simplify the necessary calculations; it also includes instructions for the use of the tables. (TJ)

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Time-Saving Tables for Computing the Spache Revised Readability Formula

Lawrence L. Smith
Assistant Professor of Education
College of Education
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Many people who use readability formulae avoid using the Spache Revised Readability Formula (1974) because, they say, it takes too much time. Others claim that the math is too complicated.

Since the formula is more precise at the primary levels than some of the other formulae, it is believed that many people would use it if the operations to determine the estimated readability level could be done quicker and with fewer calculations.

The purpose of this paper is to provide tables to be used with the Spache Revised Readability Formula in order that those persons who desire to use the formula but do not want to do all the calculations may do so.

The steps for using the revised formula tables are:

1. Count the number of words in the sample.*
2. Count the number of sentences in the sample.*
3. Count the number of "hard words" in the sample.*
4. Using Table I, find the intersection of the number of words and the number of sentences in the sample.
5. Using Table II, find the intersection of the number of words and the number of "hard words" in the sample. (It should be noted that even with no "hard words", it is still necessary to use Table II.)

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6. Add the numbers from steps 4 and 5 to determine the reading level of a particular sample.

An example for using these tables with a sample of 117 words, 8 sentences, and 4 "hard words" follows:

117 words and 8 sentences	=	1.770
117 words and 4 "hard words"	=	+.939
Readability Score		2.709 or 2.7

Hopefully, those persons who use or would like to use the Spache Revised Readability Formula will find the tables helpful.

*As described in Spache (1974).

Reference

Spache, George. Good Reading for Poor Readers, Champaign: Garrard Press, 1974.

TABLES FOR COMPUTING THE SPACHE READABILITY SCORES
Prepared by Lawrence L. Smith
University of Florida
Table I - Sentence Length

Number of Words in Sample

Number of Sentences in Sample	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
7	1.729	1.746	1.763	1.780	1.798	1.815	1.832	1.850	1.867	1.884	1.901	1.919	1.936	1.953	1.971	1.988	2.005	2.022	2.040	2.057	2.074
8	1.513	1.528	1.543	1.558	1.573	1.588	1.603	1.618	1.634	1.649	1.664	1.679	1.694	1.709	1.724	1.739	1.754	1.770	1.785	1.800	1.815
9	1.344	1.358	1.371	1.385	1.398	1.412	1.425	1.439	1.452	1.465	1.479	1.492	1.506	1.519	1.533	1.546	1.560	1.573	1.586	1.600	1.611
10	1.210	1.222	1.234	1.246	1.258	1.271	1.283	1.295	1.307	1.319	1.331	1.343	1.355	1.367	1.379	1.392	1.404	1.416	1.428	1.440	1.452
11	1.100	1.111	1.122	1.133	1.144	1.155	1.166	1.177	1.188	1.199	1.210	1.221	1.232	1.243	1.254	1.265	1.276	1.287	1.298	1.309	1.320
12	1.008	1.018	1.029	1.039	1.049	1.059	1.069	1.079	1.089	1.099	1.109	1.119	1.129	1.139	1.150	1.160	1.170	1.180	1.190	1.200	1.210
13	.931	.940	.949	.959	.968	.977	.987	.966	1.005	1.015	1.024	1.033	1.042	1.052	1.061	1.070	1.080	1.089	1.098	1.108	1.117
14	.864	.873	.882	.890	.899	.908	.916	.925	.933	.942	.950	.959	.968	.977	.985	.994	1.003	1.011	1.020	1.029	1.038
15	.807	.815	.823	.831	.839	.847	.855	.863	.871	.879	.887	.895	.903	.912	.920	.928	.936	.944	.952	.960	.968
16	.756	.764	.771	.779	.787	.794	.802	.809	.817	.824	.832	.839	.847	.855	.862	.870	.877	.885	.892	.900	.908
17	.712	.719	.726	.733	.740	.747	.754	.762	.769	.776	.783	.790	.797	.804	.811	.819	.826	.833	.840	.847	.854
18	.672	.679	.686	.692	.699	.706	.713	.719	.726	.733	.739	.746	.753	.760	.766	.773	.780	.787	.793	.800	.807
19	.637	.643	.650	.656	.662	.669	.675	.681	.688	.694	.701	.707	.713	.720	.726	.732	.739	.745	.751	.758	.764
20	.605	.611	.617	.623	.629	.635	.641	.647	.653	.659	.666	.672	.678	.684	.690	.696	.702	.708	.714	.720	.726
21	.576	.582	.588	.593	.599	.605	.611	.617	.622	.628	.634	.640	.645	.651	.657	.663	.668	.674	.680	.686	.691
22	.550	.556	.561	.567	.572	.578	.583	.589	.594	.600	.605	.611	.616	.622	.627	.633	.638	.644	.649	.655	.660
23	.526	.531	.537	.542	.547	.552	.558	.563	.568	.573	.579	.584	.589	.594	.600	.605	.610	.616	.621	.626	.631
24	.504	.509	.514	.519	.524	.529	.534	.539	.545	.550	.555	.560	.565	.570	.575	.580	.585	.590	.595	.600	.605
25	.484	.489	.494	.499	.503	.508	.513	.518	.503	.528	.532	.537	.542	.547	.552	.557	.561	.566	.571	.576	.581

TABLES FOR COMPUTING THE SPACHE READABILITY SCORES
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University of Florida
Table II

Number of Words in the Sample

Number of "Hard Words"

	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
0	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659	.659
1	.741	.740	.739	.739	.738	.737	.736	.736	.735	.734	.734	.733	.732	.732	.731	.730	.730	.729	.728	.728	.727
2	.823	.821	.820	.818	.817	.815	.814	.812	.811	.809	.808	.807	.805	.804	.803	.802	.800	.799	.798	.797	.796
3	.905	.903	.900	.898	.896	.893	.891	.889	.887	.885	.883	.881	.879	.877	.875	.873	.871	.869	.867	.866	.86-
4	.987	.984	.981	.977	.974	.971	.968	.966	.963	.960	.957	.954	.952	.949	.947	.944	.942	.939	.937	.935	.932
5	1.069	1.065	1.061	1.057	1.053	1.049	1.046	1.042	1.039	1.035	1.032	1.028	1.025	1.022	1.019	1.016	1.012	1.009	1.006	1.004	1.001
6	1.151	1.146	1.141	1.137	1.132	1.128	1.123	1.119	1.115	1.110	1.106	1.102	1.098	1.094	1.091	1.087	1.083	1.080	1.076	1.072	1.069
7	1.233	1.227	1.222	1.216	1.211	1.206	1.201	1.195	1.190	1.186	1.181	1.176	1.172	1.167	1.163	1.158	1.154	1.150	1.145	1.141	1.137
8	1.315	1.309	1.302	1.300	1.290	1.284	1.278	1.272	1.266	1.261	1.255	1.250	1.245	1.240	1.234	1.229	1.225	1.220	1.215	1.210	1.206
9	1.397	1.390	1.383	1.376	1.369	1.362	1.355	1.349	1.342	1.336	1.330	1.324	1.318	1.312	1.306	1.301	1.295	1.290	1.284	1.279	1.274
10	1.479	1.471	1.463	1.455	1.447	1.440	1.443	1.425	1.418	1.411	1.404	1.398	1.391	1.385	1.378	1.372	1.366	1.360	1.354	1.348	1.342
11	1.561	1.552	1.543	1.535	1.526	1.518	1.510	1.502	1.494	1.487	1.479	1.472	1.464	1.457	1.450	1.443	1.437	1.430	1.423	1.417	1.411
12	1.643	1.633	1.624	1.614	1.605	1.596	1.587	1.579	1.570	1.562	1.554	1.545	1.538	1.530	1.522	1.515	1.507	1.500	1.493	1.486	1.479
13	1.725	1.714	1.704	1.694	1.684	1.674	1.665	1.655	1.646	1.637	1.628	1.619	1.611	1.602	1.594	1.586	1.578	1.570	1.562	1.555	1.547
14	1.807	1.796	1.784	1.774	1.763	1.752	1.742	1.732	1.722	1.712	1.703	1.693	1.684	1.675	1.666	1.657	1.649	1.640	1.632	1.624	1.615
15	1.889	1.877	1.865	1.853	1.842	1.830	1.819	1.809	1.798	1.787	1.777	1.767	1.757	1.747	1.738	1.729	1.719	1.710	1.701	1.693	1.68-
16	1.971	1.958	1.945	1.933	1.921	1.909	1.897	1.885	1.874	1.863	1.852	1.841	1.830	1.820	1.810	1.800	1.790	1.780	1.771	1.762	1.75.
17	2.053	2.039	2.026	2.012	1.999	1.987	1.974	1.962	1.950	1.938	1.926	1.915	1.904	1.893	1.882	1.871	1.861	1.850	1.840	1.830	1.82